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ANE ADMONI-

TION DIRECT TO THE

trew Lordis mantenaris of the

Kingis Graces Authoritie.

M.^r Geo: Buchanan.

IMPRENTIT AT

STRIVILING BE ROBERT

LEKPREVIK:

ANNO DO. M. D. LXXI.

ANN ADMONI

MON DIRECT TO THE

new Lord's mantles of the

King's Grace Ambrose

M. G. B.

IMPRENTIT AT

STRIVILLING BE ROBERT

LEKPREVIR

ANNO DO M D LXXI

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**TANE ADMONITION TO
THE TREW LORDIS.
M. G. B.**

IT may seme to your Lordschippis, that I mellyng with heigh materis of gouerning of commo welthis, do pas myne estat, beyng of sa meane qualitie, and forgettis my dewtie, geuyng counsell to the wyfest of this Realme. Not the les seyng the miserie sa greit apperyng, and the calamitie sa neir approchyng, I thocht it les fault, to incur the crime of surmountyng my priuate estate, then the blame of neglecting the publik danger. Thairfor I chesid rather to vnderly the opinion of presumptioun in speiking, the of tresson in silēce, and specially of sic thingis, as euin seme presently to redound to the perpetuall schame of your Lordschippis, dilstruction of this Royall estate, and ruyne of the hole comoun welth of Scotland. On this consideration I haue takin in hand at this tyme to aduertise your honours of sic thingis as I thocht to appertene, baith to your Lordschippis in speciall, & in generall to the hole communitie of this Realme, in punitioun of traitouris, pacificatioun of troublis amāgis your selfis, and continuatioun of peace with our nighbouris. Of the quhilk I haue takin the

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trauell to write: and do remit the Iudgement to your discretioun, hopyng at leist, that althogh my wit and foresight shall not satisfie you, yet my gud will shall not displeis yow, of quhilk aduertisement the summe is this.

¶ First to consider how godly the actioun is quhilk you haue in hand, to wit, the defence of your King an Innocent pupill, the stablishing of Religioun, punitioun of thievis and traitouris, and maintenance of peace & quietnes amongis your selfis and with forrane Nationis.

Item remēber how yow haue vindicat this Realme, from the thraldome of strāgeris, out of domestik tyrannie, and out of a publik dishonour in the sight of all forrane nationis, we beyng altogidder esteimid a pepill murthers of Kingis and impatient of Lawis and ingrait, in respect of the murther of the late King Hēry, within the wallis of the principall Towne, the greatest of the Nobilitie beyng present with the Quene for the tyme: and by your power one part of the chief Tratouris tried from amōgis the trew subiectis, quhair by strāgeris wer cōstranid afterwart as mekle to praise your iustice, as of befoire they wrāgfully condemnid your iniustice.

Item remēber how far in doing the same ye haue obliged your selfis befor the hole world,

to

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to continew in the samie vertew of Iustice, and quhat blame ye shall incur, if ye be inconstāt. For all men can beliefe na vtherwise, if the time following be not conforme to the tyme past, that nouthur honour nor commoun welth stirrid yow vp then, but rather suni particular tending to your priuate commoditie.

Also remember how many gentill and honest meanis yow haue socht, in tymes past to caus the King be acknowlegid, and the contrarie put at rest, and how vnprofitabill hath ben your honestie in treityng, your vailyeant curage in werr, your mercifulnes in victorie, your clemencie in punisching, and facilitie in reconciliatioun.

Quhilk thingis witnessis sufficiently, that ye esteem na man enemy that wald liue in peace, vnder the Kingis authority, that ye wer neuer desirous of blude, geir, nor honour of sic as wald not, rather in making of trouball and seditioun, declair thaim selfis enemies to God and the Kingis Maiestie, than liue in cōcord and amitie with thair nightbouris vnder the correctioun of Iustice.

And sen ye can nouthur bow their obstinate hight with paciēce, nor mease thair stubburne hartis with gentilnes, nor satisfie their inordinate desyris, vtherwyse then with the Kingis blude and youris, the destructioun of Religi-

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oun, banisching of Iustice, & fre permissioun
of crueltie and misfordour, your wisdomes
may easely consider quhat kind of medicine,
is not only mete, but als wa necessair, for men-
ding of sic a Maladie.

And to the effect that ye may the better co-
sider this necessitie of Medicine, remember
quhat kynd of pepill thay ar, that professis
thame selfis in deid, and dissemblis in worde
to be enemeis to God, to Iustice, and to yow,
becaus ye maintene the Kinges actioun.

Sum of them ar conseillaris of the King
his fatheris slauchter, sum conueyaris of him
to the schambles, that slew his Grandschir,
banished his father, and not satisfiid to haue
slayne him self, murtherit the Kingis Regent,
and now seikes his awin blude, that they may
fulfill their crueltie and avarice being Kingis,
quhilk they begonne to exercise the tyme of
thair gouerning.

Vthers ar, that being alliat nor neir of kyn
to the Hamiltounis, thinkis to be partici-
pant of all their Prosperitie and succes.

Vthers being gyltie of King Henryis death,
in the first parliament halden in the Kingis
regne that now is, could well accord, that the
Quene should haue bene put to deith also.

And seing thay could not obtene that point,
the next schift of thair impietie was to put
downe

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downe the King, that he should not rest to reuenge his Fatheris deith, quhilk thay thocht could not be mair easilie done, then by bringing home the Quene with sic a husband, that other for auld haitred, or for new couatice, wald desire the first degre of succession to be of his awin blude.

Sum vthers ar practisid in casting of Courtis, and reuoluing of estatis, by raising of ciuile werr, and ar becum richer than euer thay hoped, and becaus thay haue found the practise sa gude in tyme past, now thay seik all wayis to continew it, & hauing ones gustid how gude fisching it is in drumly waters, they can by no maner leaue the craft.

Vthers of that faction ar, sum papistis, sum feined protestantis, that hes na God bot geir, & desiris agane the Papistrie, not for luif they beir to it (for they ar scorneris of all Religion) but hoping to haue promotioun of idle belles to benefices, and lamentis the present estait, quhair (as they say) Ministeris gettis all, and leis na thing to gude fellowis, & to this intent thay wald set vp the Quenis authoritie say thay.

Sum thair be also that vnder colour of seeking the Quenis authoritie, thinkis to eschape the punisshement of auld faultis, and haue licence in tyme to cum to oppres their nich-

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bouris, that be febillier then they.

Now haue I to schew you by coniecture, quhat frute is to be hopid of an assembly of sic men, as for the maist pairt ar of insatiabill greedines, intollerabill arrogance, without faith in promeis, measure in couatice, pietie to the inferiour, obedience to the superiour, in peace desirous of troubill, in werr thirstie of blude, nuryshers of theft, raisers of Rebelioun, counsallours of Traitouris, inuenteris of tressoun, with hand reddie to murther, mynd to deceiue, hart voyde of treuth & full of fellonie, toung trampid in dissait, & worde tending to fals practise without veritie, by quhilk properteis and many vthers thairun- to ioynd as is knawin to all men, ye that vnderstandis their beginning, progres and hofe lyfe, may easilie remember, to quhome thys generall speiking appertenis in speciall, and it is not vnknawin to sic as knawis the persons, how they ar mellid with godles persons papistes, harlot protestantis, commoun brybouris, holy in worde, Hypocrites in hart, proude contempners or Machiauell mockers of all Religioun & vertew, bludie boucheris and opin opressouris, fortifieris of theiffis, and manteneris of traitouris.

It is also necessarie to your Lordschippis to vnderstand thair pretence, that if it be a thing

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thing quibilk may stand with the tranquillitie
of the common welth, your Lordschippis
may in sum part, rather condescend to their
inordinate lust, the put the hole estate in ieo-
pardie of battell,

First, it is not honour, riches, nor authori-
tie that thay desire, for thay haue had, and als
haue presentlie, & may haue in tyme to cum-
he part of all thay thingis, as a priuait man
may haue in this Realme, not being chargea-
bil to the coutrie, or not suspectit to aie king,
as vnassurit of his awin estate.

It is not the delyuerance of the Quene that
thay seik, as thay doingis contrair to thair
worde testifeis manifestlie, for if thay wald
haue hir deliuerit, thay wald haue procurit
by all menis possibill, the Quene of Englandis
fauour & support, in quhair power the hole
recouerance stode only, & not offendid hir sa-
heichly as thay haue done, and daylie dois in
participatioun of the conspirit tressoun, to
put hir maiestie not only out of hir stait, bot
out of this lyfe present, nor in receiting and
mantening of hir Rebellis cōtrair to promise
and solempne contract of pacificatioun be-
tuix this two Realmes, nouthet yet haue hou-
dit furth, proude and vncircumspect young
men, to hery, burne, and slay, and take preso-
neris in her Realme, and vse all misfoudoun &

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crueltie,

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cruelitie, not onlie vsed in weir, but detestabill to all barbar and vile Tartaris, in slaying of presoneris and contrair to all humanitie and iustice, keip na promise to miserabill catiues receiued once to thair mercy, and all this was done by commandiment of sic as sayis thay seik the Quenes deliuerance, and reprochie to thame by the doaris of the mischeifis, saying that thay enterit tham in danger, and supportit thame not in mister, so mekle as to cum to Lawder and luik from thame, in quhilk deserting of thair Collegis, thay schew cruelitie ioyned with falsheid, and maist heich tressoun aganist the Quene, pretending in worde hir deliuerance, and stopping in warke hir reco-uerance, the quhilk as euery man may cleirly se thay socht, as he that socht his wyfe drowned in the Riuer aganis the streime.

It is not the Quenis authoritie that they wald set vp in hir absence, for if that war thair intencion, quhome can they place in it mair freindly to hir then hir onlie Sone, or quhat Gouvernour may they put to him les suspect, thā sic men as haue na pretēce of succession to the Crowne, or any hoip of proffeit to cum to thamafter his deith, or thay that euer haue bene trew seruandis to Kingis before him, should thay not be preferrit to his paternall enemyis, yea, and slayeris of his Father, and

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sollicitaris of strangeris to seik his Innocent blude.

Quhat thē shall we think that these mē^e seikis vnder pretence of the Quenis authoritie, seing thay can not bring hame the Quene to set vp hir, nor will not suffer the King lawfully inaugurat and confirmed by decret of Parliament, to bruik it, with samany of his Tutoris chosin by his mother, as ar not to be suspectit to will him harme, I traist it is not vncasie to perceiue by thair hole progres now presently and in tyme by past, that thay desire na other thing but the deith of the King and Quene of Scotland, to set vp the Hamiltounis in authoritie, to the quhik thay haue aspyrit by craftie meanis these fyftie yeires ago. And seing thair purpois succedit not by craftie and secreit meanis, now thay follow the same traide conioynng to falsheid, opin wickitnes.

¶ And that ye may see quhat meanis thay haue vsid, thir fyftie yeiris by past, to set vp by craft this authoritie, quhilk now thay seik by violence, force, and trefoun, I will call to your memorie sum of thair practisis, quhilk many of you may remember asweill as I.

First after the deith of King Iames the Fourt, Iohn Duke of Albany chosin by the Nobilitie to gouerne in the Kingis les age, The Ma-

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milstounis thinking that he had bene als wick-
 kid as thay, and should to his awin aduance-
 mēt put downe the King being of tender age
 for the time and by the deccis of his brother
 left alone, and that thay wald easilie get thair
 hand beyond the Duke, being an stranger and
 without successioun of his body, held tham
 quyet for a season, thinking that yther mens
 actioun should be thair promotion, but seing
 that the Duke as a prince baith wyse and ver-
 teous, to bring him selfe out of sic suspitioun,
 put four Lordis estemid of the maist crew and
 verteous in Scotlād in that tyme to attend on
 the Kingis grace, to wit, the Erle Merchell, the
 Lordis Erskyn, Ruthuen, and Borthick, The
 Hamiltounis being out of hope of the Kingis
 putting doune by the Duke of Albany, & out
 of credeit to do him any harme by tham selfis,
 maid one conspyracie with certane Lordis,
 to put the sayd Duke out of authoritie, and
 take it on tham selfis, that all thinges put in
 thair power they might vse the King and the
 Realme at thair awin plesurē. To that effect
 thay tuik the Castell of Glasgowe, and there
 maid an assembly of thair factioun, the quhilk
 was dissoluit by the haistie cummyng of the
 Duke of Albany with an armie, for feir of the
 quhilk the Erle of Arrane cheif of that cum-
 pany, fled to his wisis brother the Lord Hume
being

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being then out of Court.

The second conspiracie was after the Dukis last departyng (the foresayd Lordis separate from attending on the King) denyfit be Schir James Hammiltoun bastard sone to the sayd Erle of Arrane , quha conspyrit the Kinges deith then being in his hous in the Abbay of Halyruidhous. quhilk conspyracie efter many yeiris reueillit , the said Schir James sufferit deith for it . This conspyracie not beyng execute , Scheir James perseuerid in his euill intention , & by secreit meanis in Court soght alwaisthat the King should not mary , that for lack of his succession , the Hamiltounis might cum to thair intentis . For the King was young , lusty , and redy to auenture his persoun to all hasardis , baith by sea and land , in doune putting of theifis , and vpsetting of Iustice . The Hamiltounis luiked on quhen seiknes , throw excessse of trauell , or sum vther rakles auenture should cut him of without children , and destitute of this hope , first he stoppid the Kingis metyng with his Vncle the King of England , quha at that tyme having but one daughter , was willing to haif maryid with the Kyng of Scotland , and maid him King of the hole Ile after him , & to haue enterid him at that present tyme in possessiō of the Duchy of Yorke , but the sayd Schir James ener having eye to

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his

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his awin scope , hinderid this purpois by sum
of the Kingis familiaris, that he had practisid
with by giftis, and speciallie by the Bischop of
Sanctandros James Betoun , vnclē to the Erle
of Arranis mother , and greit vnclē to Schir
James wyfe , and raised sic suspitioun betuix
the twa Kingis, that broght baith the realmes
in greit besynes.

This purpois as sayd is put abak , the King
seing that his Ambassadouris furtherit not at
his plesure, deliuerid him self in persoun to ga
be sey in France , and Schir James Hamiltoun
perseuering in his former intētion went with
him to hinder his mariage , by all menis that
he might, and to that effect, the King sleiping
in the Schip, without any necessitie of wynde
and wedder, Schir James causid the marineris
to turne sail of the West coist of Ingland bak-
wart and land in Galloway , quhair the Kyng
was verray miscontent with Schir James and
Maister Dauid Panter , principall causeris of
his returnyng, as diuers that was in the Schip
yit liuyng can report. And fra that time furth,
the King hauing tryid out his pretence , and
persauing his vnfaithfull dealyng euer disfa-
uourid him, and to his greit displeasure fauour-
id opinlie the Erle of Lennox & his freindis
in his absence, the quhilk Erle pretēdid a right
and tytill to the hole Erlēomie of Arrane , the
pre-

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present Erle for that time being knawin to be
bastard, as also it was in mens recent memo-
rie how Schir James Hamiltonn had cruellie
slayne the Erle of Lennox at Linlythgow, euin
to the greit displeasure of the Erle of Arrane
father to Schir James, and vncle to the Erle of
Lennox, cumming by the Kingis commandi-
ment to Linlythgow. Sa the King as said is,
vnderstandyng the priuate practick of Schir
James, in keiping him vnmaryid, haistit hym
the mair earnestlie to mary, to the effect, that
his successioun might put the Hamiltounis
out of hope of thair intent, and him out of
danger by the Hamiltounis. And albeir that
Schir James to make him selfe cleue of that su-
spitioun, soght many diueris wayis to the di-
struction of the Erle of Arrane his brother,
yit he could neuer cōqueis the Kingis fauour,
vntill finallie he was executid for tresoun, and
tooke ane miserabill end conforme to his vn-
godly lyfe.

The King at last deceisist, & leuing a dought-
ter of sex dayis auld, the Hamiltounis thocht
all to be thairis. For then the Erle of Arrane a
young man of small wit & greit inconstancie,
was set vp by sum of the Nobilitie, & sum fa-
miliar seruandis of the kingis lately deceisist,
for thay thocht him mair tollerabill then the
Cardinall Beton, quha byane fals instrument

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had

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had taken the supreme authoritie to himselfe,
The Erie of Arran namid Gouvernour, by a
private faction, and saluourid by sa many as
professit the trew Religioun of Christ, becaus
he was bekeist then to be of the same, howbeit
he was getill of nature, yit his friends for the
maist part, wer gredit baith of geir & bluid,
and geuin to iniustice quhair gayne followid.
Thair was in his time nothing ellis, but werr,
oppressioun, & brybing of his callid brother
the Bischop of Sanct androis, sa that all the E-
statis wer werie of hym, and dischargid hym
of hys office, and charged with it an woman
strangear.

In the begynnyng of hys gouernement the
Queene and hir Mother wer keipit by him, ra-
ther lyke presoneris then Princessis, but yit
that incommoditie was cause of preservyng of
the Queens lyfe, he bekeisng to mary hys son
his sone. But after the Erie of Lennox had de-
lyuerid tham out of his handis, and the Nobil-
itie had refusid to mary hit on his sone, how-
beit he left his ferme friendis, & comit to the
Queene, abiurid his Religioun in the graye cri-
is of Striuling, yit he could neuer cunragane
to his pretendid clymmyng to the Crowne,
quhair he had lang sought, partly by fauour of
dis of the Nobilitie as wer alliat with him, and
partly by distrust of the ancient house

had

that

that

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that might haue put impediment to his vn-
reasonabill ambitio. For hauing banished the
Erle of Lennox, he thocht the Erle of Angous
to be the principall that might resist him, and
hauing enterid in waile Schir George Dow-
glas, to be yit mair assurid, he send for the said
Erle of Angous in freindly maner, & put him
in presoun without any iust occasioun, and
wold haue beheidid tham baith, if the arry-
uing of the Inglis army had not stayit his pur-
pois, by the quhilk and fear of the murmour
of the pepill, he was constrainit to delyner thā.
And seing he durst not at sic a tyme put tham
downe by tyrannie, he offerit tham to the
sword of the enemy to be slaine by tham. And
to the effect, that thay and thair freindes, ha-
uing put abak the Inglis horsemen, and recei-
uynge in vther charge, might be the mair ease-
ly slayne, thay standing in battell and fighting
for him, he in the battell behind fled to tyme
tham, and sa these Nobill men sa far as lay in
him was slayne, and preseruid by the proui-
dence of God.

The young Quene quhilk being in hir mo-
theris keeping, he might not put doune, nor
marry at his plesure, he consentid to offer hir
to the stormes of the sea, and danger of ene-
meis, and sauld hir as a slaue in France, for the
Duchy of Chastellaraule, the quhilk he brui-

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his in Name onlie, as the Crowne of Scotland in fantasie, & receauit sic price for hir as treason, periurie, and the selling of fre personis should be recompensit with. But yit the couatise of the Crowne that he had sold cessid not heir, for befoir hir returning hame out of France, at the troubillis quhilk began anent the repressing of the Frenchemen and tyrannie agais the Religion, how many meanis foght the Hamiltounis to haue depryuit hir of all right, and translatit the Crowne to thaim selfis, is knawin baith to Scotland and Ingland.

¶ Also after the Quenis arryuing in Scotland, sche seiking a querrell against the sayd Duike and sum vther Lordis, vnder protence that thay had conspyrit against hir, for the Religionis caus, the Duikis freindis left him all, becaus that the rest of the Lordis wald not consent to destroy the Quene, or derogat hir authoritie by any maner of way. A lytill befoir the quhilk tyme, the occasioun of the Dukis conspyracie, with the Erle Bothwell to slay the Erle of Murray in Falkland, was na yther, but becaus the sayd Erle of Murray liuyng, thay could nouthir do the said Quene harme in hir persoun, nor diminishe her authoritie, nor constrane her to mary at thair plesure, & to her vther displeasure.

After

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After that the Quene had maryit with him,
quhom thay estenid thair auld enemie, and
was with child, the gude Bischop of Sancton-
drois first callid Cuningham, estemit Cowane,
and at last Abbot Hamiltoun, not onlie con-
spyrit with the Erle Bothwell, but come with
the Quene to Glasgou, & conuoyit the King
to the place of his murther, the Bischop be-
ing ludged, as he seildom of befoir, quhar he
might persais the plesure of that crueltie with
all his sensis, and helpe the murtheraris, if
mister had bene, and send four of his familiar
seruandis to the execution of the murther,
watching all the night, and thinking lang to
haue the ioy of the cumming of the Crowne a
degre neirer to the hous of Hamiltoun, and sa
greit hope mellit with ambitiou inflamit his
hart for the Kingis deceis, that within schort
tyme he beleuid firmlie his callid brother to
be King, & he (the sayd Bischop) to be to him
as Curatour duryng the hole tyme of his non
wit, quhilk had bene a langer teirme than
Witsonday or Martymes, for he thocht vn-
doubtidlie, that the Erle Bothwell should di-
stroy the youg Prince, and not suffer him pro-
sper to reuenge his fatheris deith, and pre-
cede the Erlis children in successioun of the
crowne, and the young Prince onis cut of, the
Bischop maid his rekning, that the Quene &

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the Erle Bothwel hated alreedy for the slaughter of the King hir husband, and mair for the innocent, wer easie to be destroyit with consent of all estatis, and the cryme easie to the Bischop to be proued, quha knew all the secretis of the hole disseigne: for if they wald slay the Erle Bothwell and spair the Quene, thay wer in hope sche should mary Iohn Hamiltoun the Dukis sone, quhome with merie luikis and gentill countenance (as sche could weill do) sche had enterid in the pastyme of the Glaikis, and causit the rest of the Hamiltounis to fond for fainnes. But after that the Erle Bothwell had refusit battell at Carberry hill, and the Quene befoir the cumming of the Hamiltounis, come to the Lordis, the Hamiltounis as that tyme disapoint fosterid thair vane hope with a merie dreame, that the Quene should be punischit after her demeritis, and wer a tyme in dowbill ioy, that one that beyng rid of the Quene sche should not beir ma children to debar tham from the Crowne, and the vther, that thay might haue ane easie way to calumniat the Regent for destroying of the Quene. But seying hir kept, thay blamit opinlie the Regent, quha kept hir in stoir in dispite of tham (as thay sayd) to be a stud to cast ma foillis, to hinder tham of the succession of the Crowne, yit for all that,

there

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there wold hane of tham cum to Parliamēt to further thair desyre with ane anetlie vote, but lay bake to keip tham selfis at libertie, to reproif all that should be done in that conuention, and to senze fauour towardis the Quene quhome thay hated, sa as if by consent of the Lordis or vtherwise sche wer delyuerit, thay might helpe hir to put downe the Lordis, that wold not put hir downe in fauour of tham.

This thair intention was opinlie schawit, quhen the Quene beyng kept in Lochleuin, by commaundement of the hole Parliament, was delyuerit by conspyracie of sum priuate men, especiallie of the Hamiltounis, for thay assemblit all thair forces to put downe the young Kyng and Lordis obedient to hym. Quhilk euill will thay schew towardis the Lordis at the Langsyde, bringyng with tham great stoir of cordis, to murther and hang tham, if thay had bene takin prisoneris and the victorie fallin to the Hamiltounis, and the same euill will towardis the King in keipyng the watter of Forthe, that he should not eschaip thair cruell handis, beyng assurit if he come in the Quene of Englandis power, that sche of hir accustomate clemencie and kyndnes of blude, wald not abandoun him to thair vnmercyfull crueltie experimentit alre-

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dy in his father . And seying that the prouidence of God had cloisit the dore to all thair wickitnes at that tyme, thay haue neuer ceis- sit since to seike enemeis to his Grace in all strange Natiounis, and perceiuyng that thay had faire wordis of all vtheris, except of the Quenis Maiestie of Ingland, quha vnderstode thair fals and tressonabill dealing, thay turnit thair hatred agaynst hir, and enterid in conspyracie with sum tratouris of Ingland, that wer als cuill mindit towardis the Quenis Ma- iestie thair souerane, as the Hamiltounis wer to the Kingis hienes of Scotland. This is nou- ther dremid in wardrop, nor hard throw a boir, but a trew narratiue, of quhilk the me- morie is ludged in menis hartis, baith Scottis and strangeris and the veritie knawin. By the quhilk ye may vnderstand the Hamiltounis pretence this fiftie yeiris and mair.

After sa many wayis soght by tham to di- stroy the right successioun, and place tham in the Kinglie rowme, seying all thair practisis could not auail, and thair forces wer not suf- ficient, thay soght to augment thair factioun, adioynnyng to tham all, that wer participant of the Kingis slaughter, and had aspyrit to to slay the Quene of Ingland. And to the ef- fect thay might cum to thair wickit purpois, thay in a maner displayit a baner, to assemble

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togider all kynd of wickid men, as Papistes, re-
 negat Protestantis, theifis, tratouris, murthe-
 raris, and opin oppressouris. As for thair ad-
 herentis in Scotland I neid not to expreme
 thair namis, nor the qualiteis of the conspy-
 ratouris of England, for thay ar weill enough
 knowin to your Lordschippis. Yit one I can
 not ouerpas, beying the cheif conspyratour
 choisin by thame to be King of Scotland and
 England, I mene the Duke of Norfolke, in
 quhilk act ye may see how the thirst of yout
 blude blindie thame agaynst thair awin utili-
 tie. First thay chose the principall enemy of
 the Religioun of Christ in this Ile, accompa-
 nyit with vther fylthie Idolateris, to change
 the stat of the Kirk in baith Realmes by cut-
 tyng of the twa Princes, seying that thair au-
 thoritie stading, the conspiratouris could nor
 cum to thair intet. Next thay respectit in that
 proude tyranne, the vertewis that wer com-
 moun to him and thame, as arrogancie, cruel-
 tie, dissimulatioun and tresoun, for euin as
 thay had this lang tyme in Scotland, soght
 the deith of thair righteous Prince, sa he in
 England followyng the traide of his antress-
 souris, diueris tymes attemptyng tresoun,
 wald haue put downe the Quene of England.
 Heir also appeiris the Hamiltonis crueltie
 agaynst the Nobilitie of thair awin Nation,

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in seikyng thair professis and perpetuall enemye of Scotland (as his bage beiris witnes) quha should haue spilt, the rest of the noble blud of Scotland in peace, that his antecessouris could not spill in werr, by quhilk election, beyng assurit that na Scottis hart can loue thame, sa can thay loue nane of you, agaynit quhome, thay haue vsit sa many trefornabill actis. Thay do schaw also how cruelrie and auarice haue blindit tham thay canot se, in bringyng a tyrane to haue power ouer thame, seyng thay pretending neirest clame to the Crowne, should be neirest the danger. And yit for all this, could these men be well contentit, if by any meanis they could attene to thair intent, by spoyle & rubberie, as thay did quhen as they wer placid in supreme authoritie, or by makyng of you slaues as thay did in selling of thair Quene, begyn that practise quhairin howbeit the inhumanitie was great, yit was it not in supreme degre of cruelteis, but it is na moderat tollerable nor accustomed thynge that thay seik: It is the blud first of our innocēt King, ewin sic as hath bene preservit by wyld beastis, nixt the blude of all his trow seruandis and trow subiectis indifferentlie. For quhat defence can be in Nobility, or quhat suirtie against tham that haue murtherit a Kyng, and seikis strangeris to
mur-

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murther ane vther Kyng , quhome sal thay spair for vertew and innocencie , that latelie executit, and yit defendis the murther of the Regent, or quha will be ouersene for law , degre, or base estait , in respect of thay that conductit out of Tiuidaill to slay Maister Iohn Wod, for na vther caus , but for beyng a gude seruand to the Crowne and to the Regent his Maister , and had espyit out sum of thair practis.

¶ If this thirst of blud of these Lochlechis, might be impute to haistie honger or any sudane motioun, quhilk causis men sum times to forget thair dewtie, there might yit be sum hope that sic a passioun ouerpast , thay wald with tyme remember thame selfis , and after power amend faultis past, or ar leist abstene in tyme to cum . But thair is na sic humanitie in thair nature , nor na sic pietie in thair hartis, for not content with a Kingis blude , thay gaip for his Sonnis murther , nor satisfiyit to haue slayne the Regent , they keipit the murtherar in the Duikis hous in Arrane . Maist like thinkyng , as if thay honourit not the doar , thay should not be knawin as counsallouris of the deid , and wald tyne the glorie of that Nobill act . And besydes all this thay ar not onlie contentit to mantene Scottis traitouris, but als wa receiuis Inglis traitouris , and

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settis vp a sanctuarie of tresoun , a refuge of Idolatrie , a receptacle of theifis and murtheraris.

And howbeit the bullerant blud of a King and a Regent about thair hartis, quhair of the lust in thair appetite geuis tham litil rest, daylie and hourlie makyng new prouocation , yit the small space of rest, quhilk thay haue beside the executionn of their crueltie, they spend in deuyfing of generall vnquyetnes , throw the hole countrie, for not content of it , that thay tham selfis may steale, brybe, and reif, thay set out ratches on euery side, to gnaw the pepillis bonis , after that thay haue consumit the flesche, & houndis out , one of tham, the Clāgregour, ane vther the Grantie and Clauchattan, ane vther Balcleuch and Fairnyherst , ane vther the Iohnstounis and Armeistrangis, and sic as wald be haldin the halyest amāgis tham, schew playnlie the affectioun thay had to banish peace and steir vp troublis , quhen thay bendit all thair syue wittis, to stop the Regent to go first North, and syne South , to puneis thift and oppresion , and quhen they saw, that thair counsall was not authorisit , in geuyng impunitie to all misdordour, thay spend it in puttyng downe of hym that wald haue put all in gude ordour.

Thair is a kynd of these theifis euin odious
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to mair gentill theifis , quhilk callyng tham selfis great Gentilmen spoyllis trauellaris, cadgearis, and chapmen by the way, and ransounis pure men about Ediburgh for xx. schillyng the heid , quhilk vice can not procede of vengeance of enemeis, but rather of loue and plesure in wickitnes. This kynde of men dois not onlie dishonour to Nobilitie in steillyng, and to theifis in purspyking, but also to the hole Natioun of Scotland, geuing opinioun to strangeris, that sum of the Scottis be of sa law courage, that men amangis tham aspiring , to the hiest estait of a Kingdome, haue crouchit thame selfis in the mayst lawe order of knaifis.

¶ Now my Lordis ye may consider , how thay that slayis sa cruellie Kingis and thair Lieutenentis, will be mercyfull to you , and quhen thay fall haue put you downe , that craifis reuenge of the Kingis blude , ye may vnderstand how few dar craif Iustice of your slaughter. Ye may se how cruell thay will be in oppressiō of the poore, hauyng cut of you, quhilk beyng of mayst Nobill and potent housis of this Realme , sufferis throw your sleuthfulnes euery pairt of this countrie, to be maid worse then Liddisdaill, or Annanderdaill , and not onlie sufferis the purspykaris of Cliddisdaill , to exercise thift and reif

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as a craft, but nuris and authoris amangis you, the chief counsellaris of all misfordour, as ane Edder in your bosum. Of all this ye may lay the wyte on na vther but vpon your selfis, that haue sufficient power to repres thair insolencie and proudnes, hauyng in your hand the same wand that ye haue chaistit than with of befoir, for ye haue your protectour the same God this yeir, that was the yeiris bypast, vncchangeabill in his eternall counsellis, constant in promeis, potent in punisng, and liberall in rewardyng, ye haue your trew freindis and seruandis that wer with you of befoir, ye ar delyuerit of dissimulat brethren, that had thair bodyis with you, and thair hartis with your enemeis, that subscribit with you, and tuik remissiou of your aduersaris, that stuide with you in battell, luikyng for occasioun to betray you, had not God bene your protectour. Ye haue a great number of new freindis alienat from than, for thair manifest iniquitie in deid, wickednes in worde, and tresoun in hart, ye haue of the same enemeis that ye had then samany, as hes thair hartis herdinnit, and thair myndis bent agaynst God and lawfull ingratitis, ye haue the same action, that ye had then, accumulat with recent murther and tresoun, to prouoke the ire of the eternall agaynst than,

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tham. How far God hath blindid tham, blind men may se, that hauyng sa euill ane actioun, and sa many enemeis at hame, yit be houndyng out of small tratouris of thair wickid conspyracie, men execrable to thair awin parentis, quhome amangis vtheris thay haue diueris tymes spoylit, be houndyng out I say of sic persounis, to burne, murther, reif, and steill. Thay prouoke the Quenis Maiestie of Ingland, to seik vengeance of thair oppressioun agaynst hir Realme and subiectis, quhilk vengeance Iustice and honour craisis of hir sa instantlie, that sche can not ceis but persew tham, thair ressettaris and mantenaris, vntill sche gif sic exempill to vtheris, that althoght thay will not respect vertew, yit for fear of punitioun thay sall be content to lyue in peace with nightbouris, quhairin her heighnes hath alredy renewit the memorie of hir experimentit liberalitie, and tender loue to this Natioun, seikyng on hir proper charges and trauell of hir subiectis, the punitioun of sic, as we on our charges should haue punished, I mene not onlie of our Tratouris, but also ressettaris of hir Maiesteis Tratouris, and in doing of this seikis pacificatioun amangis tham that violatid peace with hir without prouocatioun, seuaryng the punischement of sic as ar giltie in offendyng, from the subiectis that

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hes not violatid the peace . And as sche kepis peace and Iustice amangis hir awin subiectis in Ingland , sa vnrequyrit sche offerid support to the same end in Scotland, and not onlie geuis remedie to our present calamiteis, but cuttis the roote of troublis to cum, and preuenis the wickid counfall of sic , as prouokis Inglismen , and solistis Frenchmen to cum in this Realme , to the end, that these twa Natiounis enterit in barres , the ane agains the vther , thay may faciat thair cruell hartis of blude , thair obltinat will of vengeance , thair bottomles couatise of spoyle and thift.

Thairfoir seyng God haue sa blindit your enemeis wittis , my Lordis be in gude hope that he sall also cast the spreit of fear and disperatioun in thair indurat hartis, and prosper your gude actioun, to the quhilk he confortis you with his redy helpe , exhortis you by his worde , and constrainis you by the dewtie of your estait , and necessitie of preseruyng of your lysis and honouris . For promeis beyng neglectit , faith violatid , subscription set at nocht , thair is na meane way left but outhert to do or suffer, and seyng that baith ar miserabill amangis sic, as should be freindis, yit better it is to slay Iustlie thé to be slayne wrangfullie . For the executioun of Iustice in punishing

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sing the wickid is approuid by God and man,
and sleuthfulnes in defence of Iustice can not
be excused of tresoun. And besydes that God
schawis him sa mercyfull and liberall to you,
in sending you freindis by procuring of your
enemeis, also the persounis maist recommen-
dit of God craisis the same, for saikles blude,
oppressioun of the pure, and of the fatherles,
cryis continually to the heuin for auenge-
ance, quhilk God committis to your handis
as his Lieutenentis and speciall officiariis in
that pairt, and euin as he rewairdis faith and
diligence in obedience of his eternall will, sa
he will not neglect to punishe sleuthfulnes in
iust executioun of his commandementis.

¶ Thairfoir my Lordis, as ye wald that God
should remember on you and your posteritie,
quhen thay fall call on him in thair necessitie,
remember on your King our Souerane, and
on my Lord Regentis pupillis, committit to
you in tutorie by the reason of your office
and estait, anent persounis that are not in age
nor power to helpe tham selfis and ar recom-
mendit speciallie to all Christianis by God in
his holy Scripture, and defend sic innocent
creaturis, as may nouthar do nor speike for
tham selfis, from the crueltie of vnmercyfull
wolfis: neglect not the occasioun, nor refuse
not the helpe send to you by God, but recog-

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nose thankfullie his fauour towardis you,
that causis your enemeis to procure your
helpe, neglect not the offer of freindis. In cais
gif ye lat slip this occasioun, ye fall craif it in
vane in your necessitie. Thinke it na les pro-
uidence of your heuinly father, then if he had
send you ane Legioun of Angellis in your de-
fence, and remember that he schew him selfe
neuer mair freindfull and succurable, to na
pepill than he hath done to you, and
traist weill if ye will perseueir, in obe-
dience and recognoscence of his
grace he will multiplie his be-
nefitis to you and your po-
steritie, and fall neuer
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